THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir. Constitutionally, the Government of India are concerned only with roads declared as National Highways or National Expressways. All other roads are the responsibility of the State Government concerned. For Ennore Expressway, State Government of Tamil Nadu is concerned . No. information about dangerous condition of this Expressway has been received by the Ministry.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

Losses incurred by Cochin Shipyard

440. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI RAMGOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cochin Shipyard have been suffering heavy losses year after year;

(b) if so, the losses incurred by the Cochin Shipyard during the last three years, year wise;

(c) to what extent the losses are attributed to the lack of orders; and

(d) the measures contemplated by Government to minimise the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The losses incurred by Cochin Shipyard Ltd. (GSL) during the last 3 years were as follows:—

S. No.	Year	Loss (Rs. Crores)
1	1990-91	20.97
2	1991-92	14.92
3	1992-93	7.95 (provisional)

(c) The losses are not attributable to lack of orders alone, but also due to a combination of the following factors:—

1. cost-price gap.

2. low productivity.

3. Time over-run in completion of ships.

(d) The following measures are under consideration for minimising the losses of CSL and for its revival:—

2. Revision of the prices of the three 86,000 DWT tankers ordered by Shipping Corporation of India (SCI). (Two of these have already been delivered to SCI).

2. Capital restructuring.

3. Revision of the pricing formula of ships built at Indian Yards including CSL.

International ocean transport industry

441. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether if is a fact that international ocean transport industry is drifting into a serious crisis;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government contemplate to meet the siuation keeping in view the interest of the Indian shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the report published by Indian National Shipowners Association, the international ocean transport industry has drifted into a serious crisis on account of the adverse developments in the trade, financial and insurance markets as well as in international legislation which have taken place during the recent years.

(c) Government have recently announced liberalisation measures to enable the Indian shipping industry to compete in international ocean transport. The following steps have been taken by Government to increase the tonnage of the Indian Shipping:—

1. Automatic approval is now given for:—

   (i) Acquisition of all categories of ships except crude tankers and OSVs, by Private Shipowning Companies.

   (ii) Sale of ships for further trading/scrapping to a company within India or abroad.

   (iii) Acquisition of ship from an Indian Shipyard; and

   (iv) Acquisition for replacement tonnage.

2. Shipping companies have been allowed to retain sale proceeds of their ships abroad and utilise them for fresh acquisition.

3. Shipping companies have been given freedom to time charter out Indian ships to foreign shipping companies.

4. Shipping companies are allowed to acquire vessels through bare boat charter-cum-demise method.

5. Quarterly Block Allocation Scheme for repair of ships has been dispensed with entirely and Researve Bank of India now releases foreign exchange for ship repair/dry docking and spares for imported capital goods without any value limit.

6. Freight charges on account of movement of fertilizer and petroleum products are now allowed to be paid in convertible currency on par with other commodities.

7. With a view to attracting foreign capital for acquisition of ships, Government have relaxed the minimum percentage of share capital of an Indian company to be held by citizens of India, from 60 per cent to 49 per cent as per Section 21 (ii) (b) of Merchant Shipping Act 1958.

Persons killed under Red Line and D.T.C. Buses

442. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed under Red Line Buses in Delhi in the last six months, give the figures month-wise; and

(b) the number of persons killed under all D.T.C. Buses in Delhi in corresponding month last years?

HE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 75 persons died in road accidents involving Red Line Buses between the period 1st January, 1993 to 30th June, 1993 as per details given below :—